

Virginia Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services
ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY CERTIFICATION PROGRAM
(1 VAC 30-46)

INFORMATION NOTICE CONCERNING

DRINKING WATER PROFICIENCY TEST REQUIREMENTS UNDER 1VAC30-46

June 7, 2012

The Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services (DCLS) certifies laboratories that perform testing of drinking water to meet compliance monitoring of the EPA Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) under Virginia regulations 1VAC30-40 or 1VAC30-46.

- 1VAC30-40 is the regulation for *Certification of Laboratories Analyzing Drinking Water*. This regulation, "Chapter 40", is Virginia's Safe Drinking Water Program (SDWP).
- 1VAC30-46 is the regulation for *Accreditation for Commercial Environmental Laboratories*. This regulation, "Chapter 46", is Virginia's NELAC/TNI program.

DCLS has a Notice titled, "Drinking Water Certification and 1VAC30-46" on its web page at www.dgs.virginia.gov/dcls with more information on the two drinking water programs available for certification or accreditation in Virginia.

The EPA SDWA regulatory requirements set out in 40CFR141 must be met regardless of which program is chosen.

The EPA requires successful proficiency test (PT) data per test method. This differs from the NELAC program which requires PT data per technology. When a laboratory holds drinking water accreditation through the NELAC program, the more stringent EPA requirement applies for drinking water proficiency testing.

To satisfy both the EPA and the NELAC requirements, a laboratory holding drinking water fields of accreditation through 1VAC30-46 must:

- (1) perform proficiency testing continually on a semi-annual basis, and maintain a successful PT history of 2 out of 3 of the most recent PT studies;
- (2) analyze each PT sample by each accreditation method (Note: DCLS requires each accredited drinking water method to be subjected to proficiency testing on a semi-annual basis regardless of the technology.) and;
- (3) meet any specialized PT requirements of 40CFR141, such as the requirements for organic disinfection byproducts and volatile organic compounds found at 40CFR 141.24 (f)(17)(i)(B).